



January 9, 2024 | Issue 77

Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

New Year, New Goals for Emergency Management and Public Health



As we move into 2024, agencies across all levels of government are publishing their 'Year in Review' commentaries, celebrating the past year's accomplishments and being transparent about their goals for this next year. This time is ideal for strategic planning, gap analyses, community preparedness campaigns, new training initiatives, and more as communities seek to continue to strengthen their emergency management and public health postures throughout the year.

What you should know: Here are just a few of the 'Year in Review' analyses of potential interest to our readers:

- **Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR):** [ASPR](#) celebrates highlights in preparedness, response, and recovery, like the Biomedical

- Advanced Research and Development Authority's (BARDA) launch of [Project NextGen](#) and the ASPR Office of Recovery's deployment to aid response to several natural disasters.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):** [FEMA's 2023 By the Numbers](#) captures the agency's response to 100+ disasters and billions of dollars in grant funding distributed. FEMA also published an article that dives deeper into its [climate resilience](#) efforts over the past year, as the agency forged new forums and partnerships to build up climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives.
 - **California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES):** Cal OES reflects on [another year of serving Californians](#). The release describes achievements like emergency management accreditation, a change in key leadership, hosting an Emergency Management Summit, and holistic statewide government response to atmospheric rivers.
 - **National Security Agency (NSA):** The NSA's [Cybersecurity Year in Review](#) spotlights cybersecurity successes like establishing the [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Security Center](#). The Review also touches on subjects like countering global threats, collaborating internationally, and protection of the Defense Industrial Base.
 - **John Hopkins University:** [John Hopkins University](#) examines what public health activities took precedent in the post-COVID-19 era. RSV, mental health innovations, and the power of AI are a few of the topics explored.

What your agency can do: Emergency management and public health are fields of continuous improvement. Below are a few tasks that your agency can do to kick off 2024 and position for advancement this year:

- **Re-Review After Action Reports (AARs) and Improvement Plans (IPs):** The most impactful AARs/IPs are those that, after development, do not sit on a shelf or in the cloud but rather concretely inform corrective actions. Emergency management and public health agencies can use the new year to re-review AARs/IPs from 2023, updating statuses on IPs and bringing activities to the forefront that may have been forgotten or not yet implemented.
- **Assess the National Preparedness Report:** FEMA's [2023 National Preparedness Report \(NPR\)](#) offers recommendations for the whole community, including all levels of government, to implement to close gaps identified in achieving the National Preparedness Goal. Assessing the NPR to discern what recommendations may be applicable to your agency can guide efforts to align with national initiatives.
- **Perform a Gap Analyses of Preparedness Plans:** Agencies can use the beginning of the year to assess the current state of their preparedness plans against best practices, like those under the [Emergency Management Accreditation Program \(EMAP\)](#) and the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#).
- **Engage in New Community Preparedness Campaigns:** FEMA's 2023 [National Household Survey](#) (NHS) reveals continued gaps in personal preparedness - roughly only 51% of adults surveyed believe they are prepared for a disaster. The results of the NHS show a need for nuanced community preparedness campaigns that feature testimonials, remind people that there is more to preparedness than assembling supplies, and feature unique preparedness programming targeted for particular groups.
- **Strengthen Coordination with External Partners:** Both public health and emergency management recognize the extensive role that partners from the nonprofit sectors, academia, and local residents play in fostering positive outcomes. The new year can be used as an opportunity to establish and maintain relationships, integrate resources, and build a shared understanding of community needs and capabilities.
- **Seek Grant Opportunities:** FEMA offers [grants](#) for pre- and post- emergency and disaster related projects and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the largest [grant-making agency](#) in the U.S. [Grants.gov](#) also offers helpful

tools, like its [workspace](#). Agencies can use the new year to explore additional opportunities for funding from both traditional and non-traditional sources.

The Latest from CONSTANT

CONSTANT Launches Emerging Threats Practice Area



Read the **Press Release** to hear more about the origins, purpose, and service offerings aligned with CONSTANT's Emerging Threats practice area.



CONSTANT closed out 2023 and looks ahead to another year of executing our mission of *making the world a safer place*. This week, we introduced an expansion of our practice areas by launching the [emerging threats practice area](#), which aligns to changing conditions, industry trends, and the direction of federal government agencies.

Check out our [2023 Year in Review](#) press release as well, where we reflect on the successes of this past year and describe our vision for 2024.

In the News



Public Health News

Post-holidays, [respiratory virus activity](#) including the flu, RSV, and COVID-19 is high and rising across the U.S. Meanwhile, health security initiatives continue to increase as the Biden-Harris Administration recently published a [global health security partnerships report](#) to show results from U.S. investments. Finally, the American Academy of Family Physicians released a Social Determinants Playbook to Advance Health Equity (link below).

[Read More](#)



Japan Struck by 7.6 Magnitude Earthquake

On January 1st, a 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck Japan on the Noto Peninsula. A series of aftershocks and a small tsunami followed the large quake. As of writing, [250 individuals remain missing and 92 confirmed deceased](#). Though Japan has a reputation for its earthquake resistant construction, the incident has exposed gaps in how the country supports its aging rural communities where many do not live in homes aligned to the newer design codes.

[Read More](#)

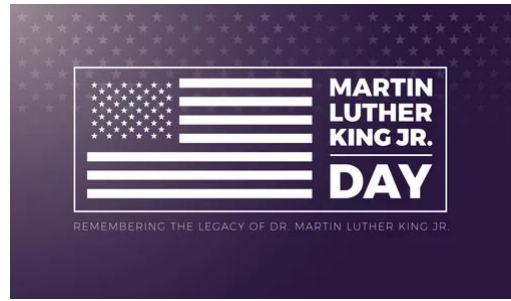


The Use of AI Across Industries

Though AI systems pose significant challenges across the world, like when it is used to promote [misinformation](#), when the [technology is attacked](#), or when it is [used maliciously by terrorists](#), AI also brings meaningful benefits. Opportunities for applying AI to [public health](#) and emergency management (link below) continue to be explored to enable medical personnel and responders to learn through large-scale datasets in various scenarios.

[Read More](#)

The Fun Stuff



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Lunar New Year

We honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 15th, commemorating the life of [Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#) We encourage all to volunteer in remembrance of his legacy. We also look ahead to [Lunar New Year](#) on February 10th, with 2024 being the year of the dragon.

Resolve to Be Ready

FEMA encourages everyone to add preparedness to their 2024 resolutions with their 'Resolve to Be Ready' campaign. Ready.gov provides a variety of resources, including a list of [12 ways to prepare](#), an [emergency supply list](#), and instructions for various disaster types.



We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, send us an email at staff@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.

CONSTANT is certified as an 8(a) and Economically Disadvantaged Woman Owned Business (EDWOSB) and as a Great Place To Work. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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